

JULY IS "SMART IRRIGATION MONTH" IN NEWPORT BEACH

NEWPORT BEACH, Ca. – Last evening, the Newport Beach City Council proclaimed that the month of July will be "Smart Irrigation Month" in the city to help raise awareness of the need to conserve California's water resources.

The warm month of July is typically a "peak" month for landscape irrigation and the right time to use water wisely. On average, about half of household water use is related to landscape irrigation and property owners tend to overwater lawns and landscapes by up to 30 percent.

The key to efficient landscape irrigation is to apply the correct amount of water and only when necessary. Wise water habits will result in healthier lawns and landscapes, conserve water, and prevent runoff from reaching the bay and ocean where pollutants can harm marine life. Plus, reducing water use will help to reduce water bills.

The following list provides some easy things to do to help conserve water outside a home or business.

- Check for overwatering:
 - ✓ Water overflows the curb and flows to the gutter
 - Moss is growing on the ground of landscaped area (especially check in shady areas)
 - ✓ Soil is saturated 5" below surface or soil is muddy
 - ✓ Lower leaves on plants are yellow and fall
- Correct misdirected sprinkler heads that are watering driveways, sidewalks and streets.
- Consider purchasing a weather-based, "smart" irrigation controller.
- Periodically inspect your irrigation system. Fix leaks and broken sprinkler heads.

For more easy water-saving tips, please call 949-644-3214 or visit any of these web sites: www.cleanwaternewport.com, www.smartirrigationmonth.org.

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